Five Dynasties, had been employed, among other purposes, to print the Classics, now reached its flowering. The voluminous dynastic histories were published as a governmental enterprise, and private firms issued many works. The calligrapher, whose skill is so highly esteemed in China, could express himself through the block method of printing, the form chiefly in use, and his name, together with that of the author and printer, appeared on the finished works. Examples of the Sung editions still survive, and for quality of workmanship have never been surpassed. Leading modern editions frequently print in the Sung style or reproduce it by photographic processes. Movable type was invented, made first of earthenware and later, before the end of the Mongol dynasty, of metal and wood. This device, however, was not so extensively employed as was the carved wood-block, nor did it yield such artistic results.

It seems probable that the rapid development of printing had a close connection with the literary and intellectual activity of the dynasty—that it both stimulated it and was stimulated by it. The rapid multiplication of books made possible by printing must have encouraged authors to write and have augmented the number of libraries and the places where study could be pursued: it put the tools of literary work and of scholarship at the disposal of more people. The increased interest in thought and in books must also have spurred the printers to perfect their processes.

CULTURE UNDER THE SUNG: **PORCELAIN AND** PAINTING

It was not only in the realm of political science, philosophy, literature, and mechanical invention that the Sung genius ex-

pressed itself. It also appeared in art. For this the court was partly responsible. Hui Tsung, the unfortunate Emperor who shared in the collapse of the Northern Sung, was, as we have noted, a painter of some distinction and a devoted patron of the arts. He founded an institute of calligraphy and painting, and government examinations in painting were begun. The Emperors of the Southern Sung continued the tradition, greatly beautifying their capital, appointing official painters, and maintaining the institute of art. The very surroundings of Lin-an (Hangchow) provided incentive. The West Lake which the city seems even-